



2021 EERMC Member Retreat Agenda – Session #1

Friday, May 28, 2021 | 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

RETREAT OVERVIEW

Each year, the Consultant Team organizes a Council Member Retreat, which is an opportunity for members to gather outside of the formal monthly meetings for deeper learning and open discussions. Retreat topics are driven by current priorities and often include a mix of Council responsibilities, timely efficiency planning considerations, and deeper dives into evolving efficiency issues and innovations. All members are expected to attend. Retreats are open to the public.

This year’s retreat structure has been developed based on feedback received through a Council Member survey. There will be two shorter retreat sessions – a 3-hour virtual session on Friday, May 28th and another in late August / early September, which will be in-person if possible.

Note: As with previous retreats, presentation slides will not be provided in advance, but will be available after the retreat session on the Council website.

RETREAT SESSION #1 AGENDA

TIME		TOPIC	
11:00 - 11:15 AM	15 min	Welcome and Overview	
11:15 – 11:45 AM	30 min	Council Purposes, History & Resources	
		10 min	Council Purposes, Roles & Responsibilities
		10 min	History of Roles and Relationships Among the Core EE Entities in Rhode Island
		10 min	Member Resources (e.g. Member Handbook & Updated Council Website)
11:45 – 12:15 PM	30 min	Discussion on Council Member Experience	
12:15 – 12:25 PM	10 min	* B R E A K *	
12:25 – 1:05 PM	40 min	Advancing Equity in RI Energy Efficiency Programs	
1:05 – 1:45 PM	40 min	Regulatory Overview with the RI Public Utilities Commission	
1:45 – 2:00 PM	15 min	Wrap Up – Discuss Priorities for Retreat Session #2	

To prepare for the retreat, each Council Member should consider the objectives and questions below and bring any points of discussion they may have to the retreat. This is intended to be a highly participatory session.

RETREAT OBJECTIVES – SESSION #1

- Members will be aware of the role of the Council, their responsibilities, and resources available to support them in fulfilling those responsibilities.
- Members will have the opportunity to engage in open discussion around their experience as Council Members and to brainstorm potential improvements.
- Members will gain a better understanding of the PUC’s regulatory perspective and process as well as the role of energy equity in the Council’s work.

COUNCIL MEMBER EXPERIENCE – DISCUSSION FRAMING QUESTIONS

- *What **challenges** do you experience in serving on the Council? In representing the perspectives and interests of your stakeholders?*
- *What **would make it easier** to fulfill your Council Member responsibilities?*
- *How can the Council **improve its effectiveness**? (e.g. information sharing improvements, specific topic deep dives, constituent connection support, Member resources library, etc.)*

EQUITY PRESENTATION – DISCUSSION FRAMING QUESTIONS

- *What **new understanding** did you find within the equity conversation? Did your perception change or expand?*
- *What are the **equity concerns** in the stakeholder community you represent?*
- *What **outcomes** would you like to see from the RI Equity Working Group?*
- *What **challenges** do you anticipate for the RI Equity Working Group? How do you think they might be **addressed**?*
- *How would you like to see equity issues addressed in the **2022 Energy Efficiency Plan**?*
- *How can the Council **play a more active role** in achieving greater equity in RI’s efficiency programs?*

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (PUC) PRESENTATION – DISCUSSION FRAMING QUESTIONS

- *How does the energy efficiency plan **relate to other PUC dockets**?*
- *Since the Least Cost Procurement Standards have been referenced as a Council Priority for National Grid to fully act on in the development of the 2022 Energy Efficiency Plan drafts, what is the PUC’s process for **vetting and prioritizing** all the components once plans are submitted?*